

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

The specification is amended to include a description of the reference numerals of Figure 10. Support for the amendment is found in Test Example 1 on pages 12 and 13 of the specification. Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Independent Claim 1 is amended for clarity. The amendment to Claim 1 is supported throughout the specification and examples of the as-filed disclosure. Claims 18-20 are new claims. Support for the new claims is found on page 8, lines 9-14 and in the test examples on pages 12-13 of the specification.

No new matter is added.

REMARKS

Independent Claim 1 is drawn to a method for preparing an oxytitanium phthalocyanine. The method includes grinding a mixture that includes an oxytitanium phthalocyanine crude, a grinding media, and sulfuric acid. The grinding forms a mixture that includes an oxytitanium phthalocyanine component, the grinding media and the sulfuric acid. A solvent is added to the mixture obtained by the grinding to form a diluted ground mixture. The thus-formed diluted ground mixture includes the grinding media and the sulfuric acid in addition to an oxytitanium phthalocyanine. The grinding media is subsequently removed from the diluted ground mixture to thereby obtain an oxytitanium phthalocyanine mixture that includes the oxytitanium phthalocyanine.

Applicants submit that Claim 1 describes an invention that is novel and not obvious over the cited art. For example, the Nukada reference (U.S. 5,298,617) describes a process in which a titanium phthalocyanine material is dissolved in sulfuric acid to form a solution, the solution is added to a solvent to precipitate crystals of a phthalocyanine material, the precipitated phthalocyanine material is collected by filtration (i.e., the phthalocyanine material is separated from the sulfuric acid), and subsequently subjected to grinding in the presence of a solvent. The solvent which may be present during the grinding of Nukada may be any of an alcohol-based solvent, an aromatic solvent, a mixed solvent of an alcohol-based solvent and water, a mixed solvent of an alcohol-based solvent and an aromatic solvent, and a mixed solvent of an aromatic solvent and water (see column 4, lines 3-8 of Nukada).

Nukada does not disclose or suggest any process in which an oxytitanium phthalocyanine material is subjected to grinding in the presence of sulfuric acid. Applicants thus submit that the subject matter of now-pending Claim 1 is both novel and not obvious over the cited art.

The amendment to the specification is believed to overcome the Office's objection to the Drawings.

For the reasons discussed above in detail, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and the allowance of all now-pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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